

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A system for providing a commerce portal that may be used to procure one or more products offered for sale by a variety of vendors, the system comprising:

a commerce portal, wherein the portal includes a customizable selection of products offered for sale by a variety of vendors;

a first computer device configured to provide information for the commerce portal;

a second computer device configured to selectively access the commerce portal to procure products provided in the commerce portal;

a computer network, wherein the first and second computer devices are connected to ~~said~~the computer network;

purchasing information representing products provided in the commerce portal that are to be purchased by a customer, wherein the second computer transmits the purchase information to the commerce portal; and

a third computer device connected to ~~said~~the computer network that is configured to track the purchasing of products from the portal by the customer.

2. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the third computer device is at least one of:

(i) the first computer device; and

(ii) the second computer device.

3. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the products offered for sale

are medical products.

4. (Original) A system as recited in claim 3, wherein the medical products relate to performing a dialysis procedure.

5. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein a first product, of the products offered for sale, is from a first industry, and wherein a second product, of the products offered for sale is from a second industry.

6. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the first computer device is a server.

7. (Original) A system as recited in claim 6, wherein the second computer device is a client.

8. (Currently amended) A system as recited in claim 7, wherein the computer network is the Internet.

9. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the products represented by the purchasing information are purchased electronically through the commerce portal.

10. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the first computer is configured to selectively authorize access to the commerce portal.

11. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the third computer is further configured to analyze information obtained by tracking the purchasing of products from the portal by the customer.

12. (Original) A system as recited in claim 11, wherein the third computer is configured to provide a report that includes information obtained by tracking the purchasing of products from the portal by the customer, wherein the report is provided to at least one of:

- (i) the customer; and
- (ii) a vendor.

13. (Currently amended) In a system that includes a computer device and a computer network, a method for providing a commerce portal that may be used in the procurement of products from vendors, the method comprising the steps for:

providing a commerce portal that includes a customizable selection of products offered for sale by a variety of vendors;

receiving a purchasing order that indicates products provided in the commerce portal that are to be purchased by a customer;

distributing the purchasing order to one or more vendors;

monitoring information relating to purchasing of the products; and

tracking the purchases made of products from the portal by the customer.

14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 13, wherein the step for providing a commerce portal is performed by one or more servers.

15. (Original) A method as recited in claim 13, wherein the products offered for sale include products from a variety of different industries.

16. (Original) A method as recited in claim 13, wherein the products offered for sale include various medical products.

17. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 13, further comprising the step ~~offer~~ determining whether or not the purchasing order is authorized.

18. (Original) A method as recited in claim 13, further comprising the step for providing a purchase analysis to at least one of:

- (i) the customer; and
- (ii) at least one of the one or more vendors.

19. (Currently amended) A computer program product for implementing within a computer system a method for providing a commerce portal that may be used in the procurement of products from vendors, the computer program product comprising

computer readable medium for providing computer program code ~~used means~~ ~~utilized~~ to implement the method, wherein ~~said~~the computer program code ~~means~~ is comprised of executable code for implementing the steps for:

providing a commerce portal that includes a customizable selection of products offered for sale by a variety of vendors;

receiving a purchasing information that indicates products provided in the commerce portal that are to be purchased by a customer;

distributing the purchasing information to one or more vendors;

monitoring information relating to purchasing of the products included in the customizable selection of products; and

tracking the purchases made of products from the portal by the customer.

20. (Currently amended) A computer program product as recited in claim 19, wherein ~~said~~the computer program code ~~means~~ is further comprised of executable code for implementing at least one of the steps for:

(i) authorizing the purchase information relating to the commerce portal; and

(ii) providing a purchase analysis.